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COLBY INTERVIEW 400 2 TAKES 550

THREPHOTOS WX23; WX24

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WASHINGTON (AP) - DIRECTOR WILLIAM E. COLBY OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SAID THURSDAY THAT OVER THE YEARS FOREIGNERS HAVE SUGGESTED ASSASSINATIONS TO HIM AND U.S. GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES HAVE DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITY OF ASSASSINATIONS WITH HIM. COLBY SAID HE REJECTED THE IDEAS EVERY TIME.

THE 55-YEAR-OLD HEAD OF AMERICA'S SPY AGENCY DECLINED TO NAME THE SUGGESTED OR POTENTIAL TARGETS OR THE PERSONS WHO MADE THE SUGGESTIONS. NOR WOULD HE GIVE THE DATES OR LOCATIONS OF THESE CONVERSATIONS.

COLBY SAID HE OPPOSED PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF FACTS BEHIND THESE OR OTHER ALLEGED ASSASSINATION SCHEMES INVOLVING THE CIA, BECAUSE "I THINK THERE IS POSITIVE HARM TO THE REPUTATION OF THE COUNTRY TO GO INTO GREAT DETAIL ON THESE THINGS."

HE EMPHASIZED: "OUR POLICIES TODAY ARE CLEAR . . . I AM OPPOSED TO ASSASSINATIONS BECAUSE I THINK THEY'RE WRONG AND BECAUSE I THINK THEY FREQUENTLY BRING ABOUT ABSOLUTELY UNCONTROLLED AND UNFORESEEABLE RESULTS - USUALLY WORSE RESULTS THAN BY CONTINUING TO SUFFER THE PROBLEM THAT YOU'RE FACING."

DURING AN INTERVIEW OF MORE THAN AN HOUR IN HIS SEVENTH-FLOOR OFFICE AT CIA HEADQUARTERS IN SUBURBAN LANGLEY, VA., COLBY DISCUSSED A WIDE RANGE OF ISSUES RAISED DURING INVESTIGATIONS OF HIS AGENCY BY THE NEWS MEDIA; A PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION AND SEVERAL CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.

THESE WERE AMONG HIS MAJOR POINTS IN THE FIRST INTERVIEW HE HAS GIVEN SINCE THE ROCKEFELLER COMMISSION LAST WEEK REPORTED IT FOUND SOME "PLAINLY UNLAWFUL" DOMESTIC ACTIVITIES BY THE CIA:

- HE CANNOT ENVISION THAT AGENCY EMPLOYEES WOULD AGAIN FEEL THAT THE POLITICAL CLIMATE IN THIS COUNTRY JUSTIFIED THEIR VIOLATING THE LEGAL LIMITS ON CIA DOMESTIC ACTIVITY.

- HE DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT ANY CIA EMPLOYEES WILL BE CONVICTED OF CRIMES OR EVEN PROSECUTED FOR ILLEGAL CIA ACTIVITIES.

- HE CANNOT BE CERTAIN THAT ALL THE AGENCY'S ILLEGAL OR IMPROPER ACTIVITIES HAVE COME TO LIGHT, BUT ARGUES THAT NO FEDERAL AGENCY COULD GIVE SUCH AN ASSURANCE ABOUT ITS OPERATIONS.

- IT IS UP TO THE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES AND THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO DECIDE WHETHER TO NAME ANY OF THE NAMES OF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CIA'S ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES.

- HE CONFIRMS THAT FOREIGNERS APPROACHED OTHERS IN THE CIA WITH A PLOT TO ASSASSINATE FRENCH PRESIDENT CHARLES DE GAULLE, AND THAT IT WAS FLATLY REJECTED. HE DOES NOT KNOW WHETHER THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT WAS ADVISED OF THAT PLOT, NOR CAN HE SAY THAT IN ALL INSTANCES HE WOULD ADVISE A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT OF A PLOT THAT CAME TO HIS ATTENTION.

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7WASHINGTON COLBY INTERVIEW TAKE 2: ATTENTION. 150

- HE INTENDS TO IMPLEMENT THE ROCKEFELLER COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION THAT THE CIA INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE BE ENLARGED BUT HOPES THAT EFFORTS TO POLICE THE AGENCY WON'T IMPAIR ITS INTELLIGENCE-GATHERING MISSION.

- HE HAS NOT BEEN ASKED TO RESIGN AND INTENDS TO STAY AT HIS POST SO LONG AS THE PRESIDENT AND HE AGREE THAT HE IS USEFUL.

- HE THINKS THAT A CAREER IN INTELLIGENCE SHOULD BE NEITHER A BAR NOR A REQUIREMENT FOR THE JOB OF CIA DIRECTOR.

- HANDING OVER A COPY OF RECENT NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS ON SOVIET MISSILE DEVELOPMENTS ~~HE ASSERTED THAT AMERICA HAS THE BEST~~ INTELLIGENCE SERVICE IN THE WORLD AND FEELS A MAJOR PART OF HIS ROLE IS TO CONVINCE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE OF THAT.

1820PED 05-19

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7CIVIL WAR TOPLESS CORRECTION

7YAKIMA; WASH. CIVIL WAR TOPLESS A261 TO CORRECT TIME ELEMENT FROM THURSDAY TO WEDNESDAY; SUB FOR 2ND GRAF; THIS.

YAKIMA AREA RESIDENTS WERE STARTLED WEDNESDAY NIGHT WHEN FOOTAGE OF A TOPLESS DANCER INTERRUPTED A CIVIL WAR ADVENTURE YARN CALLED "THE GODCHILD" ON ABC-AFFILIATE KAPP.

7THE UNEXPECTED 3RD GRAF

1822PED 05-19

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COLBY INTERVIEW: A273-274; ADD: OF THAT. 430

COLBY REFUSED TO ENTER A CONTROVERSY TRIGGERED WHEN VICE PRESIDENT NELSON A. ROCKEFELLER SAID HE HAD NO PROOF THAT PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY AND HIS BROTHER ROBERT KNEW OF CIA ASSASSINATION PLOTS; BUT THAT THEIR DEATHS AND THE POOR MEMORIES OF THOSE STILL ALIVE MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIS COMMISSION TO MAKE ANY DETERMINATION. SEN. EDWARD M. KENNEDY, D-MASS., HAS CALLED ROCKEFELLER'S REMARK AN UTTERLY IRRESPONSIBLE INNUENDO ABOUT HIS BROTHERS.

ASKED IF THE KENNEDYS WERE EVER INVOLVED IN INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CIA TO PLAN OR CONDUCT ASSASSINATIONS, COLBY SIMPLY CITED AGAIN HIS DETERMINATION NOT TO DISCUSS IN DETAIL ANY ASSASSINATION REPORTS.

OVER RECENT WEEKS, THERE HAVE BEEN DOZENS OF PUBLISHED AND BROADCAST STORIES ALLEGING CIA KNOWLEDGE OF OR INVOLVEMENT IN ASSASSINATION PLOTS OR ATTEMPTS AGAINST FOREIGN LEADERS, INCLUDING CUBAN PREMIER FIDEL CASTRO, THE LATE DOMINICAN REPUBLICAN DICTATOR RAFAEL TRUJILLO, AND OTHERS.

COLBY'S NAME WAS NOT MENTIONED IN ANY OF THESE REPORTS. AND HE SPECIFICALLY REFUSED TO DISCUSS THESE REPORTS ON THURSDAY.

IN FACT, IN ACKNOWLEDGING THAT FOREIGNERS HAD COME TO HIM WITH PLOTS AND THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITIES AT OTHER TIMES WITH AMERICANS, COLBY INJECTED HIS OWN NAME INTO THE ASSASSINATION ISSUE FOR THE FIRST TIME.

HIS CAREER WITH THE CIA EXTENDS BACK TO 1951. HE HAS SERVED ABROAD IN STOCKHOLM, ROME AND SAIGON, AND RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES BETWEEN 1962 AND 1967 AND FINALLY IN 1972.

HE WAS ASKED IF HE COULD CONCEIVE OF ANY POLITICAL CLIMATE IN THE WORLD WHICH WOULD JUSTIFY AN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT BY THE UNITED STATES.

HE REPLIED: "IF YOU HAD ASKED ME TO PREPARE AN OPERATION AGAINST ADOLF HITLER IN 1944, I SUPPOSE I WOULD HAVE VOLUNTEERED FOR THE MISSION." BUT OUTSIDE OF WARTIME, HE SAID HE COULD THINK OF NO CLIMATE TO JUSTIFY ASSASSINATION.

HE VOLUNTEERED THAT: "I HAVE TURNED DOWN ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS SUGGESTIONS SUCH AS THAT."

"OBVIOUSLY, FOREIGNERS COME UP TO YOU WITH THESE IDEAS. THIS THOUGHT IS PRESENTED IN VARIOUS PLACES AROUND THE WORLD FROM TIME TO TIME. IT'S REJECTED," HE SAID.

WHEN DID THESE OCCUR?

"OVER A LONG CAREER."

~~THEY ARE EITHER COMING FROM THE GOVERNMENT OR FROM THE PRESS~~
"PEOPLE HAVE SUGGESTED - HAVE ONLY DISCUSSED IT, I THINK IS THE BEST WAY TO PUT IT, OR INDIRECTLY DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITY, THE REMOTE POSSIBILITIES. THIS HAS HAPPENED OVER TIME. I TURNED THEM DOWN."

7MORE

1983PED 06-19

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COLBY INTERVIEW ADD 450

WASHINGTON COLBY INTERVIEW A273, 274, A278 2ND ADD: THEN DOWN."

COLBY WAS ASKED ABOUT A PUBLISHED REPORT THAT A GROUP OF FRENCH NATIONALISTS HAD APPROACHED THE CIA A DECADE AGO WITH A PLOT TO KILL DEGAULLE.

"THE IDEA OF THIS WAS AN IDEA POSED TO US," COLBY REPLIED. "IT WAS TURNED DOWN RIGHT AWAY, PERIOD. TURNED DOWN BEFORE IT GOT ANYWHERE."

PROPOSED BY FRENCHMEN? "PROPOSED BY FOREIGNERS."

DID THE CIA ALERT DEGAULLE? "I FRANKLY DON'T KNOW OFF HAND. I JUST FRANKLY DO NOT KNOW."

WHAT ARE THE AGENCY'S RESPONSIBILITIES TO ADVISE FOREIGN LEADERS OF PLOTS TO KILL THEM THAT COME TO THE CIA'S ATTENTION?

"THAT'S A VERY DIFFICULT PROBLEM THAT AFFECTS A LOT OF DIFFERENT THINGS. IT DEPENDS UPON WHAT YOUR SOURCING IS; WHETHER YOU'RE REVEALING A SOURCE IN ALERTING," COLBY SAID.

"YOU HAVE TO EVALUATE THE COMPARATIVE VALUE OF KEEPING A SOURCE AND ALERTING THE VICTIM. YOU HAVE TO LOOK AT THE OTHER PROTECTIONS AVAILABLE AND THE LIKELIHOOD THAT IT WILL TAKE PLACE OR NOT TAKE PLACE."

"WE GET INTO THIS WITH INFORMATION ABOUT COUPS ALL AROUND THE WORLD," HE ADDED. "WE DON'T NECESSARILY GO TO EVERY GOVERNMENT RIGHT AWAY TO TELL THEM THAT THERE IS A COUP GOING ON; BECAUSE WE FOUND THAT MANY SUCH COUPS NEVER TAKE PLACE. SOMETIMES WE WOULD WARN THEM. YOU CAN'T GENERALIZE; REALLY."

LATER, COLBY SAID THAT IN ADDITION TO THE ROCKEFELLER REPORT'S STRESS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD INTELLIGENCE AND SIMILAR STATEMENTS FROM PRESIDENT FORD, HE THOUGHT ONE MORE POINT NEEDED TO BE MADE.

"THE ONLY ADDITIONAL THING I THINK WE AMERICANS NEED TO THINK ABOUT WHEN WE THINK ABOUT CIA IS HOW GOOD THE INTELLIGENCE PRODUCT IS," HE SAID. HERE, HE PAUSED AND HANDED TO HIS INTERVIEWER COPIES OF SEVERAL RECENT NEWSPAPER STORIES ON SOVIET MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS.

"ONE OF THOSE ARTICLES DESCRIBES THE NEW SOVIET GENERATION OF MISSILES. NOW YOU CAN IMAGINE HOW SECRET THAT MATERIAL WOULD BE HELD IN THE SOVIET UNION," HE SAID.

"AND YET HERE WE ARE; NOT ONLY DOES OUR GOVERNMENT KNOW THIS AND KNOW THE DETAILS OF THESE MISSILES AND HOW BIG THEY ARE, HOW FAR THEY GO, WHETHER THEY HAVE FOUR, FIVE OR SIX WARHEADS, WHATEVER, WHERE THEY'RE LAUNCHED FROM, HOW MANY THERE ARE SO THAT WE CAN NEGOTIATE ABOUT THEM. NOT ONLY OUR GOVERNMENT KNOWS THIS, BUT OUR PEOPLE DO ...," HE SAID.

"TWENTY YEARS AGO IT WOULD HAVE BEEN ABSOLUTELY INCREDIBLE FOR OUR GOVERNMENT TO HAVE KNOWN ANYTHING LIKE THAT ... BECAUSE OF THE IMPROVEMENT IN OUR INTELLIGENCE, AND I MEAN BOTH THE TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE AND THE CLANDESTINE INTELLIGENCE, OUR GOVERNMENT IS NOW ABLE TO OPERATE ON A BASIS OF KNOWLEDGE WHERE IT FORMERLY HAD TO OPERATE ON A BASIS OF ESTIMATE."

GETTING HIS MESSAGE ACROSS, THE CIA DIRECTOR SAID, WAS A MAJOR PART OF HIS JOB. "I'M TRYING TO EDUCATE THE PEOPLE. I'VE TRIED TO EXPLAIN INTELLIGENCE."

7. MORE

2019 SEP 06-19

111A298

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 4DATASPEED ADVISORY
 7EDITORS:
 7COMPOSING ROOMS:

A PARTIAL TEXT OF THE ANTICRIME MESSAGE WHICH PRESIDENT FORD SENT TO CONGRESS THURSDAY - 3,000 WORDS IN SEVEN TAKES - WILL MOVE TO DATASPEED POINTS IN UNJUSTIFIED FORM AT 9 P.M., WITH VISIBLE TAPE DESIGNATIONS TX01 THROUGH TX07.

THE JUSTIFIED VERSION WILL MOVE AT 10 P.M., WITH VISIBLE TAPE DESIGNATIONS TXJ101 THROUGH TXJ107.

THE TEXT IS ALSO BEING TRANSMITTED ON DATASTREAM, THE B-WIRE, AND SOME REGIONAL CIRCUITS.

THE AF
 2038PED 06-19

111A299

U LBYLQYVRYR
 7COLBY INTERVIEW ADD 260
 7WASHINGTON COLBY INTERVIEW A273, A274, A288, A294 3RD ADD:
 EXPLAIN INTELLIGENCE."

TURNING TO THE ROCKEFELLER REPORT AGAIN, COLBY TOOK RESPONSIBILITY FOR CUTTING THE STAFF OF THE CIA INSPECTOR GENERAL, AN INTERNAL WATCHDOG, FROM 14 TO 5 PERSONS IN 1973. BEFORE THE CUTBACK, THE INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, AT FORMER CIA DIRECTOR JAMES R. SCHLESINGER'S REQUEST, HAD HELPED GATHER AND CHECK MATERIAL ON CIA MISDEEDS.

THIS CUTBACK WAS PART OF AN OVERALL STAFF CUTBACK AT THE AGENCY, COLBY SAID. BUT HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE REST OF THE AGENCY WAS NOT CUT BY TWO-THIRDS. HE SAID HE FELT FIVE PERSONS COULD HANDLE SENSITIVE INQUIRIES, AND THAT ADDITIONAL MANPOWER WOULD ONLY INVOLVE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL IN SUCH LESS SIGNIFICANT MATTERS AS DECIDING WHETHER THIS OR THAT AGENCY OFFICE NEEDED ONE CLERK OR TWO.

WOULD COLBY NOW INCREASE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL'S STAFF, AS THE ROCKEFELLER COMMISSION RECOMMENDED?

"WE UNDOUBTEDLY WILL. WE HAVE TO," HE SAID. "WELL, IT'S ALREADY BEEN INCREASED TO HANDLE THIS INCREASED WORKLOAD WE HAVE NOW RESPONDING TO THE DIFFERENT COMMITTEES."

HE DECLINED TO PREDICT ITS ULTIMATE SIZE, SAYING THAT HE PREFERRED TO HAVE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL'S RECOMMENDATION BEFORE DOING SO.

"OBVIOUSLY WE'RE GOING TO HAVE MORE OF OUR MANPOWER HERE DEVOTED TO REVIEW THAN WE HAVE IN THE PAST," COLBY SAID. "I'M A BELIEVER IN ... MINIMUM BUREAUCRATIC STAFFS ... HOWEVER AT THIS POINT, IT'S OBVIOUS THAT WE'RE GOING TO BE ASKED TO HAVE MORE STAFF REVIEW AND I CAN UNDERSTAND THAT."

"BUT I HOPE WE DON'T LOSE THE FLEXIBILITY AND THE DRIVE TO PRODUCE GOOD INTELLIGENCE BY REVIEWING OUR ACTIVITIES MORE THAN WE OPERATE THEM. BUT I DON'T THINK WE WILL."

2043PED 06-19